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COPY**REILLY TAR & CHEMICAL CORPORATION**

Mr. H. L. Finch

St. Louis Park

Mr. W. A. Justin

April 21, 1970

Water Pollution

- Refer to letter of April 20, 1970.

On April 21, 1970, I received a telephone call from Mr. George Koonce, of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, requesting the same information I had given to Mr. Lutz, who had inspected our plant on April 20, 1970. Mr. Koonce was aware that Mr. Lutz had been in the plant, and he expected to receive his report, however he did not come to work on the 21st, so he called me to obtain information. This would indicate a pressing need for information about our plant. This sudden concern, I believe is a result of St. Louis Park pressing the state to investigate us. Mr. Koonce brought out the same points of concern that Mr. Lutz had, namely a report from St. Louis Park of us dripping creosote oil all over the place and underground storage leaking and polluting the ground water. I again told him as I had Mr. Lutz, that this was simply not true. Mr. Koonce asked me if we were planning to sub-cut our soil as St. Louis Park had requested, and I told him I was not aware of such a request. St. Louis Park has apparently told him our soil is reeking with tar and oil, which is constantly polluting the underground water. I did find out from him that the state had run tests on some of St. Louis Park's wells, which ones he did not know, and found the piccol concentration to be 5 parts/million, which he said was well below the concerned concentrations. Mr. Koonce requested we send him plans we had for pollution control. He said the ones we had sent to St. Louis Park would be satisfactory, and that any equipment we planned to install would have to be submitted to the state for approval and licensing. One side note of interest came up in the course of the conversation, when Mr. Koonce said that the state health department was unhappy about the general appearance of our plant, but this was of no interest to him since it was out of his department. I wonder if the fact that Mr. McPhee is with the St. Louis Park health department has any connection with this?

My overall impression in talking with Mr. Koonce and Mr. Lutz, is that St. Louis Park has given the state ambiguous reports of the conditions within our plant, in an effort to have the state enter the picture. After talking with these men, I feel that they now agree that our main problem with water, is not from our plant runoff, but from the fact that water is allowed to run into and out of our area, and also that they do not feel the present analysis they have on the underground water is proof enough that we are polluting it.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Justin

WAJ:sjg

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cc: C. P. Leshar